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3637 (10-81)

Mr. William J. Casey Director of Central Intelligence Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

Yesterday I had occasion to attend a luncheon at the Capitol, after which Senator Durenberger made some remarks. He discussed the Select Committee's role in establishing a requirement for a national intelligence strategy and other initiatives he portrayed as bringing some order to a previously unstructured enterprise.

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In responding to questions, the Senator described some lunch-time discussions he and some of his colleagues had organized with invited scholars to review various areas of the world, and stated that in ninety minutes they had learned more than they had found out from the CIA in years.

Perhaps Senator Durenberger really believes these things, perhaps not, but the audience (composed primarily of people with some interest in Latin American affairs) really ate it up. One lady, who described herself as being from the Department of State, reported with obvious relish that in every country where she had served the people absolutely detested the CIA.

No doubt there are, and will always be, many things in the Intelligence Community that could be made better, but it is difficult to see how presentations of this kind by the senator chairing its oversight committee (not to mention a representative of the President's party) are very helpful. I am sure this is not your first indication of the problem, but I did want to draw it to your attention.

Incidentally, you may be interested to know (if only for historical purposes) that it was not the senators who first came up with the idea, or requirement, for an intelligence strategy. I drafted one for George Bush when he was DCI; Admiral Turner arrived soon thereafter and, so far as I know, nothing was ever done with the document, although I think a copy is still kicking around the Center for the Study of Intelligence somewhere.

With very best wishes and thanks for all that you are doing.

Sincerely,

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